



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | | | | |
| 08/461,402 | 06/05/1995 | GEORGE GOICOECHEA | END-140 | 6448 |
| 7590 01/07/2005 | | | EXAMINER | |
| PAUL F PRESTIA | | | THALER, MICHAEL H | |
| RATNER AND PRESTIA | | | | |
| 500 N GULPH ROAD | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| P O BOX 980 | | | 3731 | |
| VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482 | | | DATE MAILED: 01/07/2005 | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

JA

Page 2

Application/Control Number: 08/461,402

Art Unit: 3731

The outcome of the review by the US District Court of Interference No. 104,192 has a material bearing on the patentability of the claims in this application. Prosecution in this application is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this letter. Upon suspension or termination of the court proceedings regarding the interference, applicant should provide the Office with any documents relevant to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Thaler whose telephone number is (571)272-4704. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan T. Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-9306.

mht 12/17/04 MICHAEL THALER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3731

JOHN E. KITTLE DIRECTOR TC 3700